

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A steel cord adapted for the reinforcement of elastomers, said steel cord comprising:

a core steel filament having a core steel filament diameter  $d_c$  and being coated with a polymer;

six intermediate steel filaments having an intermediate steel filament diameter  $d_i$  smaller than or equal to said core steel filament diameter  $d_c$ , said intermediate steel filaments being twisted around said core steel filament;

a number of N ten or eleven outer steel filaments having an outer steel filament diameter  $d_o$  smaller than or equal to said intermediate steel filament diameter  $d_i$ , said outer steel filaments being twisted around said intermediate steel filaments, said outer steel filaments being preformed in order to allow rubber penetration inside said cord, wherein said number of N is ten or eleven;

said core steel filament, said intermediate steel filaments and said outer steel filaments all having a tensile strength of at least 2600 MPa,

said cord having an outer diameter  $D$  according to the following formula:

$$D \leq d_c + 2 \times d_i [[2 \times d_i]] + 2 \times d_o [[2 \times d_o]] + 0.1 \text{ mm};$$

wherein all diameters ( $D$ ,  $d_c$ ,  $d_i$ ,  $d_o$ ) are expressed in millimeters millimeter (mm).

2. (Currently Amended) A steel cord according to claim 1, wherein all diameters  $d_c$ ,  $d_i$  and  $d_o$  range from 0.15 mm to 0.40 mm.

3. (Previously Presented) A steel cord according to claim 1, wherein said outer steel filaments are polygonally preformed.

4. (Previously Presented) A steel cord according to claim 1, wherein said cord has a breaking load of at least 3250 Newton.

5. (Previously Presented) A steel cord according to claim 1, said intermediate steel filaments being twisted with an intermediate twisting step, said outer steel filaments being twisted with

an outer twisting step, said intermediate twisting step being different from said outer twisting step.

6. (Currently Amended) A steel cord according to claim 1, said intermediate steel filaments being twisted in an intermediate twist direction, said outer steel filaments being twisted in an outer twist direction, said intermediate twist direction being equal to the same as said outer twist direction.

7. (New) A steel cord according to claim 1, wherein said intermediate steel filaments are twisted in an intermediate twist direction and said outer steel filaments are twisted in an outer twist direction, wherein said intermediate twist direction is different from the outer twist direction.